

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Previously Presented) A method for performing a real-time service level agreement (SLA) impact analysis, the method comprising the steps of:

detecting an event arising from a specific resource;

determining whether based upon said event said specific resource cannot perform adequately to meet a term within an SLA which directly implicates said specific resource; and,

further determining whether based upon said event said specific resource inhibits another resource from performing adequately to meet a term within another SLA which does not directly implicate said specific resource, but directly implicates said another resource.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of establishing a hierarchy of resources within a shared database through which a relationship can be recognized between said specific resource and said another resource in said further determining step.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said detecting event comprises the step of receiving an event from a management application charged with managing said specific resource.

4. (Currently Amended) A system of performing a real-time service level agreement (SLA) impact analysis comprising:

a hardware processor configured to:

detect an event arising from a specific resource;

determine whether based upon the event the specific resource cannot perform adequately to meet a term within an SLA which directly implicates the specific resource; and,

further determine whether based upon the event the specific resource inhibits another resource from performing adequately to meet a term within another SLA which does not directly implicate the specific resource, but directly implicates the another resource.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 4, wherein a hierarchy of resources is established within a shared database through which a relationship can be recognized between the specific resource and the another resource.

6-7. (Cancelled).

8. (Previously Presented) A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for performing a real-time service level agreement (SLA) impact analysis, the computer program comprising a routine set of instructions for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

detecting an event arising from a specific resource;

determining whether based upon said event said specific resource cannot perform adequately to meet a term within an SLA which directly implicates said specific resource; and,

further determining whether based upon said event said specific resource inhibits another resource from performing adequately to meet a term within another SLA which does not directly implicate said specific resource, but directly implicates said another resource.

9. (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 8, further comprising the step of establishing a hierarchy of resources within a shared database through which a relationship can be recognized between said specific resource and said another resource in said further determining step.

10. (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 8, wherein said detecting event comprises the step of receiving an event from a management application charged with managing said specific resource.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for assessing the impact of an indirectly implicated resource within a service level agreement (SLA) in real time, the method comprising the steps of:

establishing an SLA directly implicating a performance level for an underlying resource;

noting at least one resource upon which said underlying resource depends, wherein the at least one resource is not directly implicated by the SLA;

receiving an event arising from said at least one resource;

determining whether said event affects said underlying resource in meeting said performance level; and,

[[if]] upon determining that said event prevents said underlying resource from meeting said performance level, generating a notification specifying an impact of said event upon said SLA.